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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SANO et al. Conf.: 8796
Appl. No.: 09/701,303 Group: 1615
Filed: November 28, 2000 Examiner: R. M. JOYNES
For: CONTROLLED RELEASE PREPARATIONS HAVING
MULTI-LAYER STRUCTURE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

11 / 27 / 02

Sir:

In reply to the Examiner's Office Action dated July 16, 2002, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the above-identified application and stand ready for further action on the merits.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102/103

Claims 1-3, 6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cardinal (US 4,601,893). Further, claims 4-5 and 7 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cardinal based upon an allegation of obviousness.